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EDITORIAL NOTES

SAN FRANCISCO AND THE A. M. A.

The American Medical Association meets this year at Atlantic City and it will then choose the place for the meeting of 1915; the San Francisco County Medical Society and the State Medical Society have passed resolutions inviting the Association to meet in San Francisco in that, the Exposition year, but of course it is impossible to say what the Association will do in the matter until Thursday, June 25th. In some peculiar manner, the Secretary-Editor, Dr. Jones, seems to have been accused of trying to oppose the selection of San Francisco as the place of meeting for the Association in 1915. This is not at all the case. Dr. Jones has had much correspondence and many interviews with various people in regard to the proposed meeting here and has consistently taken the position that, as a Trustee of the Association, he had no right to work actively for anything that was wholly the province of the Delegates to determine. He has given such assistance as he could in the matter of furthering the distribution of information and helping those who are and were actively engaged in the effort to secure the meeting for San Francisco in 1915, during the past two years. It is probable that the Association will vote to come to San Francisco, though a number of delegates have expressed a desire to have the meeting in some intermediate city, such as Denver, which would allow the members to continue their journey and take in the Exposition.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

During the time of the Annual meeting at Santa Barbara, the Council held four meetings, the 72nd, 73rd, 74th and 75th. At the first of these meetings, held Monday night, April 13th, the Chairman presented to the Council his proposed report for the past year with recommendations, etc. The report, embodying many important suggestions having a radical bearing upon the future conduct and development of the Society, was discussed at considerable length by all the councillors present, and was finally approved as presented by the Chairman, Dr. Kenyon. report will be found in full elsewhere in this number of the JOURNAL, together with the other reports and official proceedings.

Modoc and Lassen-Plumas County Medical Societies, which had been organized in March, were officially accepted in affiliation with the State Society.

A communication from Dr. J. H. Hurst was presented and action was deferred until the Council could confer with the officers of the Santa Barbara County Medical Society. This conference was held the next day and the Secretary was instructed to notify Dr. Hurst that a special meeting of the Council would be held the following day, April 15th, at 11:30 a.m., for the purpose of hearing what Dr. Hurst had to say. Dr. Hurst had been suspended from membership in the Santa Barbara County Medical Society for publishing in the daily press of Santa Barbara, matter reflecting upon the society and the medical profession. In the early part of the present year the sentence was changed from suspension to expulsion.

Dr. Hurst appeared at the meeting the following morning and read a statement which he had prepared, prefacing this statement by saying that he did not make request for hearing as to his suspension or expulsion, but that he requested the Council to deprive the Santa Barbara County Medical Society of its charter, rights and privileges as a component unit of the Medical Society of the State of California. The officers of the Santa Barbara County Medical Society stated the facts in regard to the acts of the Society, etc., and several resolutions were spread upon the minutes, the gist of them being that "there is in the opinion of the Council, no real foundation in fact and that this Council completely exonerates the Santa Barbara County Medical Society from the charges made against it by Dr. Hurst." As Dr. Hurst had not requested a review of the action of the Society in expelling him, this matter was not acted upon by the Council, it being considered that the Santa Barbara County Medical Society had acted properly and within its rights.

The last meeting of the Council, held Thursday, was one for organizing the new Council. Dr. C. G. Kenyon was re-elected Chairman and Dr.

Philip Mills Jones was appointed Editor.

of the wound to remove all source of continued intoxication, and of conserving the strength of the patient in the hope that the morbid process caused by the toxin already in the nerve cells may be overcome (Jour. A. M. A., April 11, 1914, p. 1174).

SALVARSAN THERAPY.—Wechselmann holds that the cases of salvarsan fatalities from encephalitis hemorrhagica were due to uremia, resulting from the irritation of the kidneys, in most cases damaged by administration of mercury. On the basis of this theory he argues for a pure salvarsan therapy in place of the generally combined mercury and arsenic treatment. He warns that salvarsan should be administered only after due consideration of the dose indicated and of the determination of absence of contraindications. No one can dispute that nearly all the deaths from salvarsan have been caused by its indiscriminate use, either in the face of contraindications or too large or too frequent dosage (Jour. A. M. A., April 11, 1914, p. 1175).

THE HYPOPHOSPHITE FALLACY.—The hypophosphites were introduced by Dr. Churchill as a specific remedy for consumption on the theory, since proven incorrect, that phthisis was due to a lack of oxygen in the tissues. On the supposi-tion that hypophosphites were oxidized in the body, he presumed them to be a source of energy for the nervous system. Not only does the evidence indicate that in consumption there is an increase of oxidation, but there is no evidence that phosphorus acts as an energizer of oxidation and further, there is no proof that the hypophosphites enter into general metabolism. Not only is there no evidence of the utility of hypophosphites but it has long ago been demonstrated that they are excreted unchanged. While the discredited hypophosphite theory is no longer contained in text-books, the fallacy is kept alive by proprietary interests, and physicians who depend for their therapeutics on the "literature" of proprietary concerns, still employ the hypophosphites (Jour. A. M. A., April 25, 1914, p. 1346).

SALVARSAN IN EROSIVE BALANITIS.

ANSTRUTHER DAVIDSON, M. D., Los Angeles.

Erosive balanitis is not at all uncommon in this city, but many practitioners continue to class it as chancroid. The recommended methods of treatment—slitting up the foreskin when required, bathing with peroxide of hydrogen, etc.—are absolutely useless in many cases as the numerous fatalities show.

As this disease is in part a spirochetal affection I have for the last year been using salvarsan in-travenously, just as in syphilis. In some cases the resultant cure has been almost magical in its rapidity; a few seemed to be unaffected by it, and in one case seen two weeks before death, it was apparently of no benefit. I wish those who have an opportunity would try this and record the result in this Journal.

A CONSERVATION OF VISION CAMPAIGN, WITH A REQUEST FOR CO-OPERATION.

For some time now the American Medical Association, through a special Conservation of Vision Sub-committee of the Council on Public Health of the A. M. A., has been striving to initiate through-out the United States a campaign of education, having for its end object the education of the people concerning the great necessity for proper work in the conservation of vision.

The undersigned has been requested by the A. M. A. Conservation of Vision Committee to take charge of the lecture work in California.

At the Santa Barbara meeting of the Medical

Society of the State of California, the State Committee on the Conservation of Vision was consolidated with this A. M. A. Committee.

By addressing the Conservation of Vision Committee of the American Medical Association, 535 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., all who are interested can obtain copies of the literature that has been put out on this subject.

An invitation is herewith extended to all eye specialists in the state, or general practitioners who are interested in public health matters, to co-operate in this campaign of Conservation of Vision in California.

It is the purpose to present lectures before women's clubs, parent-teachers' school associations, and other organizations interested in the conser-

vation of the public health.

It is hoped that the eye specialists, who should be particularly interested in this work, will co-operate in California as they have in other States, so as to show a good report for California in this propaganda.

The undersigned will be glad to correspond and give further information to all members of the

profession who are interested.

Very truly,
GEORGE H. KRESS,
Chairman of the State Medical Society Committee on Conservation of Vision. 245 Bradbury Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

PERSONNEL OF THE HOUSE OF DELE-GATES, SANTA BARBARA, APRIL, 1914.

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MEMBERS AND GUESTS REGISTERED AT THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA, APRIL,

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Kyle, J. J.

Lederman, E. D. (guest); Lee, Helen; Lefler, Anna B.; Lewis, W. M.; Lippman, Caro W.; Lobingier, A. S.; Lockwood, C. D.; Lovejoy, E. D.; Lowman, C. L.; Lozieaux, E. S.; Luton, G. I.

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Newell, Edw.; Newman, H. P.; Nusbaumer,

Pauline. Oldham, J. Y.; Oliver, H. R.; O'Brien, E. S.; O'Neill, A. A.; O'Neill, Stella M.; Orbison, F. J.;

Osborn, H. B.
Page, C. W.; Pahl, P. C. H.; Parker, C. H.;
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Pischel, Kaspar; Pond, H. M.; Pottenger, F. M.; Powell, B. J.

Reinhardt, Geo. F.; Reinle, G. G.; Rigdon, R. L.; Roblee, W. W.; Roberts, W. H.; Rogers, F. L.; Roth, L. J.; Root, S. W. (guest); Ryan, L. R.; Ryfkogel, H. A. L.

Ryfkogel, H. A. L.
Schmoll, Emile; Schneider, E. H.; Seabolt, Gertrude; Shepard, C. A.; Sherman, H. M.; Sherry, H.; Sill, E. R.; Smith, Bertnard; Smith, Stephen; Smyth, Margaret; Speik, F. A.; Stevens, Wm. E.; Stratton, R. T.; Strietmann, Wm. H.; Strong, D. C.; Stoddard, C. S.; Stoddard, T. A.; Stover, W. M.; Surryhne, B. F.; Sweet, Earl.
Tait Dudley: Taltavill Wm. A.: Taubles, G. H.;

M.; Surryhne, B. F.; Sweet, Earl.
Tait, Dudley; Taltavill, Wm. A.; Taubles, G. H.;
Taylor, W. J.; Terry, W. I.; Thomas, C. P.;
Thomas, H. G.; Tucker, G. E.
Van Dalsem, S. B.; van Kaathoven, J. J. A.; Van
Zwalenburg, C.; Voorsanger, Wm. C.; Wallace, W.
S.; Watkins, E. F. P. (guest); Watkins, Jas. T.;
Watson, H. G.; Wayland, C. A.; Welty, C. F.;
Wells, Geo. S.; White, Grace R.; Whitman, C. H.;
Wilbur, R. L.; Williams, Ralph; Williams, T. M.;
Wills, Wm. Le Moyne; Wintermute, G. P.; Witherbee, O. O.; Worthington, Geo. B.; Wright, H. W.
Zieg. John. Zieg, John.

WARNING TO USERS OF TURPENTINE FOR MEDICINAL OR VETER-INARY PURPOSES.

As a result of an investigation by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, it has been found that the adulteration of turpentine with mineral oils is so widespread that druggists and manufacturers of pharmaceutical products and grocers' sundries used for medicinal and veterinary purposes should exercise special caution in purchasing turpentine. Those who use turpentine for this purpose, unless they are careful, run the risk of obtaining an adulterated article and unnecessarily laying themselves open to prosecution under the Food and Drugs Act.

It has been found, moreover, that the turpentine sold to the country stores especially, as usually put out by dealers and manufacturers of grocers' sundries, is often short in volume by as much as 5 or 10 per cent. Dealers, therefore, should also protect themselves through a guarantee from the wholesaler that the bottle contains the full de-

clared volume.

The Department has found that turpentine may be adulterated in the South where it is made and that the further it gets from the South the more

extensively and heavily it is adulterated.

In all cases druggists, manufacturers and wholesale grocers should satisfy themselves that the turpentine is free from adulteration and is true to marked volume.

SUMMER COURSES.

The summer courses of the Society of Instructors of the University of Berlin will be given the 1st of October, 1914, and last until the 28th of Octo-

A free catalogue and further information can be obtained from Herrn Melzer, Ziegelstrasse, 10/11 (Langenbeck-Haus), Berlin, Germany.

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NEW MEMBERS.

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Davis, Fred J., Westwood.
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Franklin, James Wm., Santa Monica.
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Mebarry, Jay S., Los Angeles.
Reynolds, F. W., San Pedro.
Watson, Harry Goldsborough, Los Angeles.
de Niedman, Wm. F., Los Altos, Cal.
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Stoddard, Clara May, San Diego.
Burton, Frank A., San Diego.
Burton, Frank A., San Diego.

DEATHS.

Rohm, J. T., Redding, Cal. Bainbridge, Jas. A., Lathrop, Cal. Nichols, Chas. B., Los Angeles. Henderson, Edw., Pomona. Colerick, A. E., Pacific Grove. Bond, Jas. M. (died in Healdsburg, Cal.)